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DN 7/2/04 Smart Murder Case
NH Room

Smart murder parolee back in NH prison

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One of four men tied to the murder of Gregory Smart in 1990 is back in prison because of an alleged parole violation.

Raymond Fowler, 31, who was released by the state parole board in April 2003, is accused of disturbing the peace June 7 in connection with an incident at his former girlfriend's home.

Salisbury, Mass., police gave Fowler a summons to appear in court, then notified New Hampshire officials, who took Fowler into custody and brought him back to state prison June 15.

"It's considered an automatic parole violation," said Jeffrey Lyons, a spokesman for the New Hampshire Department of Corrections.

Fowler, who is on parole until 2013, served 12 years in state prison on charges that he conspired with three other boys to murder Smart at his condominium in Derry. The murder plan was driven by Smart's wife, Pamela Smart, then 24 and the media director at Winnacunnet High School in Hampton. She is serving a life sentence.

Fowler waited in the car outside, and helped clean the murder weapon, according to prosecutors.

When Fowler was released on parole, the parole board

cited his clean disciplinary record while in prison and said he was "headed in the right direction." Fowler was freed, with the blessings of Gregory Smart's father, after a three-month stay in a halfway house.

Most recently, Fowler had been living with relatives at 14 Washington St. in Seabrook. Shortly before 4 a.m. June 8, Salisbury police were called to Cushing Street on a report of two men yelling outside a home and banging on the windows, Chief Richard Simmons said. Air was also let out of the tires of a car parked at the house, which was the home of Fowler's former girlfriend.

Officers Kurt Calderwood and Daniel McNeil charged Fowler and 34-year-old William Fowler of the same address. The men were not taken into custody but were issued summonses and expected to appear in court to answer to the charges at a later date. An officer said Fowler called the Salisbury police station after he was charged, and expressed concern about being sent back to prison.

Lyons said a parole revocation hearing is scheduled for July 27 at the state prison. At the hearing, the parole board will hear details of the incident in Salisbury and decide whether Fowler should be sent back to prison.